

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A medium having a status information printing program recorded thereon to be run on a host computer in order for a printer to print status information, the host computer and the printer being connected for two-way communication, the printing program comprising:

an output initiation instruction monitor function configured to monitor the output initiation instruction for the status information that the printer outputs through the two-way communication, the status information being output without solicitation from the host computer;

a status information acquisition function on the host side configured to acquire status information data from the printer through the two-way communication;

a printing data generation function configured to generate printing data to be printed by the printer based on the status information data acquired by the status information acquisition function on the host side when the output initiation instruction is recognized by the output initiation instruction monitor function; and

a printing data output function configured to output to the printer through the two-way communication the printing data generated by the printing data generation function.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 1, wherein the printing data generated by the printing data generation function is dot image data.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 1, wherein part of the status information data is in the printer whether the output initiation instruction exists or not; and

the output initiation instruction monitor function is configured to monitor whether the output initiation instruction is contained in the status information data acquired by the status information acquisition function on the host side.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 1, wherein
the output initiation instruction is a trigger transmitted from the printer through the two-way communication; and
the output initiation instruction monitor function is configured to judge whether the trigger is received.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 1, wherein
the status information acquisition function is configured to analyze the status of the printer based on the acquired status information data; and
the status information acquisition function is configured to warn a user on the host computer if the printer can perform no printing.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 1, wherein
the status information acquisition function is configured to acquire the communication mode as the status information data when two-way communication is held with the printer.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 1, wherein
the printing data generation function is configured to generate from a default file the form of the printing images to be printed by the printer, generate the character string image corresponding to the status based on the status information data, and generate the printing image by superposing them together.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A printer for holding two-way communication with a host computer and printing status information about the printer, the printer comprising:

an output initiation instruction unit configured to instruct the output initiation of the status information;

a status information acquisition unit on the printer's side configured to acquire status information data on the printer;

a status information output unit configured to output through the two-way communication, without solicitation from the host computer, the status information data acquired by the status information acquisition unit on the printer's side, and causing the host computer to generate printing data for the printer to print the status information; and

a printing unit configured to receive the printing data from the host computer through the two-way communication and performing predetermined printing based on the received data.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The printer according to Claim 8, wherein the printing data received by the printing unit is dot image data.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The printer according to Claim 8, wherein the status information acquisition unit includes a status information data storage part for storing status information data, and is configured to write the output initiation instruction as part of the status information data in accordance with the output initiation instruction of the output initiation instruction unit; and

the status information output unit is configured to output through the two-way communication the status information data stored in the status information data storage part.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The printer according to Claim 8, wherein
the output initiation instruction unit is configured to output a trigger as the output
initiation instruction through the two-way communication; and
the status information output unit is configured to output the status information data
acquired by the status information acquisition unit after the trigger is outputted.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The printer according to Claim 8, wherein
the output initiation instruction unit includes a predetermined instruction button,
multiple operation of which gives the output initiation instruction.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The printer according to Claim 8, wherein
the status information acquisition unit is configured to acquire fixed status
information only when the printer is booted; and
the status information acquisition unit is configured to acquire sequentially updated
status information when the status is updated.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A printing controller for causing a printer connected
for two-way communication to print status information on the printer, the printing controller
comprising:

an output initiation instruction monitor unit configured to monitor the output initiation
instruction for the status information that the printer outputs through the two-way
communication, the status information being output without solicitation from the host
computer;

a status information acquisition unit on the host side configured to acquire status information data from the printer through the two-way communication;

a printing data generation unit configured to generate printing data to be printed by the printer based on the status information data acquired by the status information acquisition unit on the host side when the output initiation instruction monitor unit recognizes the output initiation instruction; and

a printing data output unit configured to output to the printer through the two-way communication the printing data generated by the printing data generation unit.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The printing controller according to Claim 14, wherein

the printing data generated by the printing data generation unit is dot image data.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The printing controller according to Claim 14, wherein

part of the status information data is in the printer whether the output initiation instruction exists or not; and

the output initiation instruction monitor unit is configured to monitor whether the output initiation instruction is contained in the status information data acquired by the status information acquisition unit on the host side.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The printing controller according to Claim 14, wherein

the output initiation instruction is a trigger transmitted from the printer through the two-way communication; and

the output initiation instruction monitor unit is configured to judge whether the trigger is received.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The printing controller according to Claim 14, wherein

the status information acquisition unit is configured to analyze the status of the printer based on the acquired status information data; and

the status information acquisition unit is configured to warn a user if the printer can perform no printing.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The printing controller according to Claim 18, wherein

the status information acquisition unit is configured to acquire the communication mode as the status information data when two-way communication is held with the printer.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The printing controller according to Claim 14, wherein

the printing data generation unit is configured to generate from a default file the form of the printing images to be printed by the printer, generate the character string image corresponding to the status based on the status information data, and generate the printing image by superposing them together.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A status information printing method for causing a printer to print status information under the control of a host computer, the printer and the host computer being connected for two-way communication, the method comprising:

an output initiation instruction monitor step for monitoring the output initiation instruction for the status information that the printer outputs through the two-way communication, the status information being output without solicitation from the host computer;

a status information acquisition step on the host side for acquiring status information data from the printer through the two-way communication;

a printing data generation step for generating printing data to be printed by the printer based on the status information data acquired in the status information acquisition step on the host side when the output initiation instruction is recognized in the output initiation instruction monitor step; and

a printing data output step for outputting to the printer through the two-way communication the printing data generated in the printing data generation step.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The status information printing method according to Claim 21, wherein

the printing data generated in the printing data generation step is dot image data.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The status information printing method according to Claim 21, wherein

part of the status information data is in the printer whether the output initiation instruction exists or not; and

the output initiation instruction monitor step monitors whether the output initiation instruction is contained in the status information data acquired in the status information acquisition step on the host side.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The status information printing method according to Claim 21, wherein

the output initiation instruction is a trigger transmitted from the printer through the two-way communication; and

the output initiation instruction monitor step judges whether the trigger is received.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The status information printing method according to Claim 21, wherein

the status information acquisition step analyzes the status of the printer based on the acquired status information data; and

the status information acquisition step warns a user if the printer can perform no printing.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The status information printing method according to Claim 21, wherein

the status information acquisition step acquires the communication mode as the status information data when two-way communication is held with the printer.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The status information printing method according to Claim 21, wherein

the printing data generation step generates from a default file the form of the printing images to be printed by the printer, then generates the character string image corresponding to the status based on the status information data, and generates the printing image by superposing them together.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A status information printing system consisting of a host computer and a printer that are connected for two-way communication via a predetermined data transfer line, the system, comprising:

the printer configured to output status information data through the two-way communication to the host computer, without solicitation from the host computer, in accordance with a status information output initiation instruction, and perform predetermined printing based on printing data outputted by the host computer; and

the host computer configured to acquire the status information data outputted from the printer through the two-way communication and generate predetermined printing data based on the status information data, and output the printing data to the printer.